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News Release

RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY
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Snapper Grouper Public Hearing Rescheduled

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council has rescheduled the public hearing regarding Snapper Grouper Amendment 8 in Marathon, Florida. The hearing, originally scheduled for January 10, was postponed due to lack of adequate space to conduct the hearing.

The new date, time and location are as follows:

Friday, January 24, 1997, beginning at 6:00 p.m. and ending when all business is complete, at the Monroe County Regional Service Center, 2798 Overseas Highway (mile marker 47.5 Gulf side), Marathon, Florida 33050; telephone: 305-289-2543. Council staff will be available at the hearing location from 5:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. to address questions from the public concerning Draft Amendment 8.

The proposed federal regulations would reduce the number of permit holders in the snapper grouper fishery, and implement further restrictions to compensate for overfishing of certain species in the snapper grouper management unit.

The public is encouraged to attend the hearing and voice your concerns regarding Amendment 8. If you are unsure how these proposed regulations would affect you, feel free to contact Susan Buchanan, public information officer, at the council office (803-571-4366).

Summaries of Amendment 8 will be available at the hearing.

The deadline for written comments on Amendment 8 has been extended to 5:00 p.m., January 27, 1997. Comments may be mailed or faxed to Robert Mahood, Executive Director, at the council office.

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, one of eight regional councils, is responsible for the conservation and management of fish stocks from three to 200 miles off the shores of North and South Carolina, Georgia and east Florida.

